

W.S. Hostler House
1303 9th Street
First Ward Neighborhood
Altoona
Blair County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5807

HABS
PA,
ALTO,
24-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

W.S. HOSTLER HOUSE

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Location: 1303 9th Street

Date of Erection: 1888

Description: The cross-gabled house measures approximately 20' x 44'. The wood-frame structure is clad with a brick veneer. The three-bay front has segmental-arched windows and a bracketed cornice; there is additional ornament in the peak of the gable. The porch has been enclosed with brick.

History: Coal dealer W. S. Hostler built this house in 1888, shortly after acquiring the lot from the estate of Robert H. McCormick for \$1,000. Hostler lived here until 1895 when he sold it for \$5,000 to William J. Heinsling, the president of Fidelity Bank. In 1900 Heinsling rented it to Louis Hinman, who ran a wholesale produce business and lived there with his wife, five children, and a servant. That year Heinsling sold it to Margaret Painter, who lived there with her husband, Harry, a blacksmith. Painter sold it in 1921, after his wife's death.

Sources: Maps: 1882, 1888. City directories. Tax assessment books. Deed books: 68/250, 105/398, 129/82, 289/180, 291/630, 401/21. U. S. Census, 1900.

Project Information: This report was part of a larger project to document the city of Altoona, Pennsylvania. The project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), Robert Kapsch, chief, at the request of America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), Randy Cooley, director. An overview of the history of the city (HABS No. PA-5784) and an overview of the first ward neighborhood (HABS No. PA-5788) provide context for these buildings as well as a comprehensive list of sources. See also additional HABS reports on buildings in the city and other neighborhoods.

This report was prepared by HABS Senior Historian Alison K. Hoagland, project leader and editor, in the summer of 1989. Hoagland's and other project historians' work was published as Railroad City: Four Historic Neighborhoods in Altoona, Pennsylvania (Washington, D.C.: HABS/HAER, National Park Service, 1990), edited by Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian, and Sara Amy Leach, HABS historian.